Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

STATUTES

OF THE

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

(*Adopted about* 1823.)

CHAPTER I.

Of Officers.

1. There shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Vice-Treasurer, and a Librarian or Keeper of the Library, which officers shall be annually elected by written votes, the day next preceding the last Wednesday in May.

2. If either of the Secretaries, the Treasurer, or the Keeper of the Library die, resign, or be removed during the year, the vacant office or offices shall, at the next meeting of the Academy, be filled by written votes for the remainder of the year.

CHAPTER II.

Of the President.

1. It shall be the duty of the President, and, in his absence, of the Vice-President or next officer in order, as above enumerated, to preside at the meetings of the Academy; to summon extraordinary meetings of the Academy, upon any urgent occasion; and to execute or see to the execution of the statutes of the Academy.

2. The President, or, in his absence, the next officer in order as above enumerated, is empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums of money as the Academy shall direct.

3. Any deed or writing, to which the Common Seal is to be affixed, shall be signed and sealed by the President, when thereto authorized by the Academy.

CHAPTER III.

Of the Secretaries.

1. The Corresponding Secretary shall keep the letter-book, shall record all letters addressed to the Academy, and deliver the originals to be filed to the Recording Secretary: and at each meeting the Corresponding Secretary shall read such letters as have been addressed to the Academy since the last meeting.

2. The Recording Secretary shall have charge of the Charter and statute-book, journals, and all literary papers belonging to the Academy; and all letters, after they have been recorded, shall be kept by him on file. He shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Academy at its meetings; and after each meeting is duly opened by the presiding officer, the proceedings of the last meeting shall be read by the Recording Secretary.

3. Until the further order of the Academy, it shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to transmit to every Fellow thereof, residing in foreign countries, one copy of each volume of Memoirs hereafter published, as soon as convenient.

4. Any Fellow of the Academy residing without the limits of Massachusetts shall be entitled to receive one copy of each volume hereafter published, by applying personally, or by written order, for the same within two years after such publication.

CHAPTER IV.

Of the Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer.

1. The Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer shall give such security, as the Academy may require, for the trust reposed in them severally.

2. The Treasurer shall receive officially all moneys or sums of money, due or payable, and all bequests or donations made, to the Academy; and, by order of the President or presiding officer, shall pay such sums as the Academy shall direct: and shall keep an account of all receipts and expenditures.

3. All moneys or sums of money which there shall not be present occasion to expend, shall be put out at interest on such securities, or otherwise disposed of, as the Academy shall direct.

4. The Treasurer shall keep a separate account of the income and appropriation of the Rumford Fund, and report the same annually.

5. The Treasurer's accounts shall be annually audited by a committee appointed by the Academy for the purpose.

6. In case of the death, resignation, or removal of the Treasurer, the Vice-Treasurer shall discharge his duties.

CHAPTER V.

Library and Cabinet.

1. It shall be the duty of the Librarian, or the Keeper of the Library, to take charge of the books, to keep a correct catalogue of the same, and to deliver books to the Fellows of the Academy.

2. Any Fellow of the Academy may have at any one time three volumes from the Library.

3. Books may be kept out three calendar months, and no longer; and every person shall be subjected to a fine of twenty cents a week, for every volume retained beyond that time.

4. Every person, who takes a book from the Library, shall give a receipt for the same to the Librarian or his Assistant.

5. Every book shall be returned in good order, regard being had to the necessary wear of the book with good usage. And if any book shall be lost or injured, the person, to whom it stands charged, shall replace it by a new volume or set, if it belong to a set, or pay the current price of the volume or set to the Librarian; and thereupon, the remainder of the set, if the volume belonged to a set, shall be delivered to the person so paying for the same.

6. All books shall be returned to the Library for examination, at least one week before the annual meeting. And every person then having one or more books and neglecting to return the same, as herein required, shall forfeit and pay a fine of one dollar.

7. At the meeting of the Academy in May, a committee shall be chosen to examine the Library, and make report of its condition at the next annual meeting.

CHAPTER VI.

Of Meetings.

1. There shall be annually four stated meetings of the Academy: namely, on the last Wednesday in January, the day next preceding the last Wednesday in May, the second Wednesday in August, and the second Wednesday in November, to be held at the Hall of the Academy, in Boston.

2. The President shall have power to call extraordinary meetings of the Academy, at such time and place as he shall see fit.

3. Seven Fellows shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of every description, which may come before the Academy.

4. The meetings of the Academy shall be advertised in the public papers, by the Recording Secretary.

CHAPTER VII.

Of Fellows.

1. No person shall be elected a Fellow of the Academy, unless proposed and recommended by one or more Fellows, who shall subscribe their names to the recommendation upon the nomination-list. The name shall stand on the nomination-list at least during the interval between two statute meetings, previous to the election. Three fourths of the votes given shall be necessary to constitute a majority for the admission of a member; and when three fourths shall amount to less than seven, then seven votes shall be necessary. Should any person, on balloting, not be admitted, his name shall be removed from the nomination-list: but may at any future period be placed upon it again for a new nomination.

2. Each Fellow residing in the State of Massachusetts shall pay annually two dollars to the Academy.

CHAPTER VIII.

On Literary Performances.

1. The Academy will never express its judgment on literary performances or memoirs submitted to it.

2. The President, Vice-President, and Secretaries, with such others as the Academy may see fit to join, shall constitute a Committee of Publications, to which Committee all memoirs submitted to the Academy, shall be referred.

RUMFORD PREMIUM.

In conformity with the last will of Benjamin Count Rumford, granting a certain fund to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and of a decree of the Supreme Judicial Court for carrying into effect the general charitable intent and purpose of Count Rumford, as expressed in his said will, the Academy is empowered to make from the income of said fund, as it now exists, at any annual meeting, an award of a gold and silver medal, being together of the intrinsic value of three hundred dollars, as a premium, to the author of any important discovery or useful improvement on light or on heat, which shall have been made and published by printing, or in any way made known to the public, in any part of the Continent of America, or any of the American Islands; preference being always given to such discoveries as shall, in the opinion of the Academy, tend most to promote the good of mankind; and to add to such medals, as a further premium for such discovery and improvement, if the Academy see fit so to do, a sum of money not exceeding three hundred dollars.

For this purpose a standing Committee is appointed annually by the Academy in May, to consider and report on all applications for the Rumford Premium.